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"For me, and for thousands with similar inclinations, the most important passion of life is the overpowering desire to escape periodically from the clutches of a mechanistic civilization. To us the enjoyment of solitude, complete independence, and the beauty of undefiled panoramas is absolutely essential to happiness."—Bob Marshall (1901-1939)



search for *Solitude*

OUR WILDERNESS HERITAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

June 1970

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OUR WILDERNESS HERITAGE

Wilderness is part of the American heritage. This Nation was spawned in wilderness, and from the beginning of settlement it has obtained sustenance from the boundless forests on every hand.

Viewed with awe and some misgivings by early settlers of the New World, the American wilderness has been interwoven into the Nation's folklore, history, art, and literature. Even today, these wide expanses of forested mountains help shape the character of our youth.

The wilderness that witnessed the birth and early growth of this Nation no longer spreads from ocean to ocean. But neither has all of it been tamed. Many of these untamed lands, majestic reminders of primeval America, are parts of the National Forests of the United States.

Here, as wild and as free as ever, 9,925,352 acres of wilderness in 60 areas are held in trust by the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the use, enjoyment and spiritual enrichment of the American people. Another 4,363,954 acres in 28 Primitive Areas are being reviewed under provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 to determine their suitability for inclusion in the Wilderness System.

The Forest Service bears with pride its stewardship of these

*Within these plantations of God a decorum and sanctity reign, a perennial festival is dressed, and the guest sees not how he should tire of them in a thousand years.
In the woods we return to reason and faith.*
—Ralph Waldo Emerson. (1803-1882)

unique lands and is dedicated to keeping them intact for this and future generations.

On September 3, 1964, when the President signed into law the bill creating the National Wilderness Preservation System, it assured for our time and for all time to come that 9 million acres of this vast continent would remain unchanged except by the forces of nature.

The new law designated 54 National Forest areas as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System to remain forever natural except for special provisions for certain restricted commercial uses. Included were the 9.1 million acres of wilderness,

wild, and canoe areas previously established by the Department of Agriculture.

Thirty-four National Forest Primitive Areas — 5.5 million acres — were to be reviewed before September 3, 1974, as to their suitability for addition to the Wilderness System. Also to be reviewed were all roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more in the National Park System, as well as all such areas in roadless islands, regardless of size, in the national wildlife refuges and game ranges. Areas to be reviewed may be added to the System only by subsequent acts of Congress.

Only in America have such positive measures been taken to preserve wilderness as a national resource. In the new conservation of this century, our concern is with the total environmental relationship between man and the world around him. Its object is not only man's material welfare but the dignity of man himself.

The Congress can justly be proud of the contribution of foresight and prudent planning expressed by this measure to perpetuate our rare and rich heritage. Generations of Americans to come will enjoy a more meaningful life because of these actions.



In wildness is the preservation of the world.
—Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

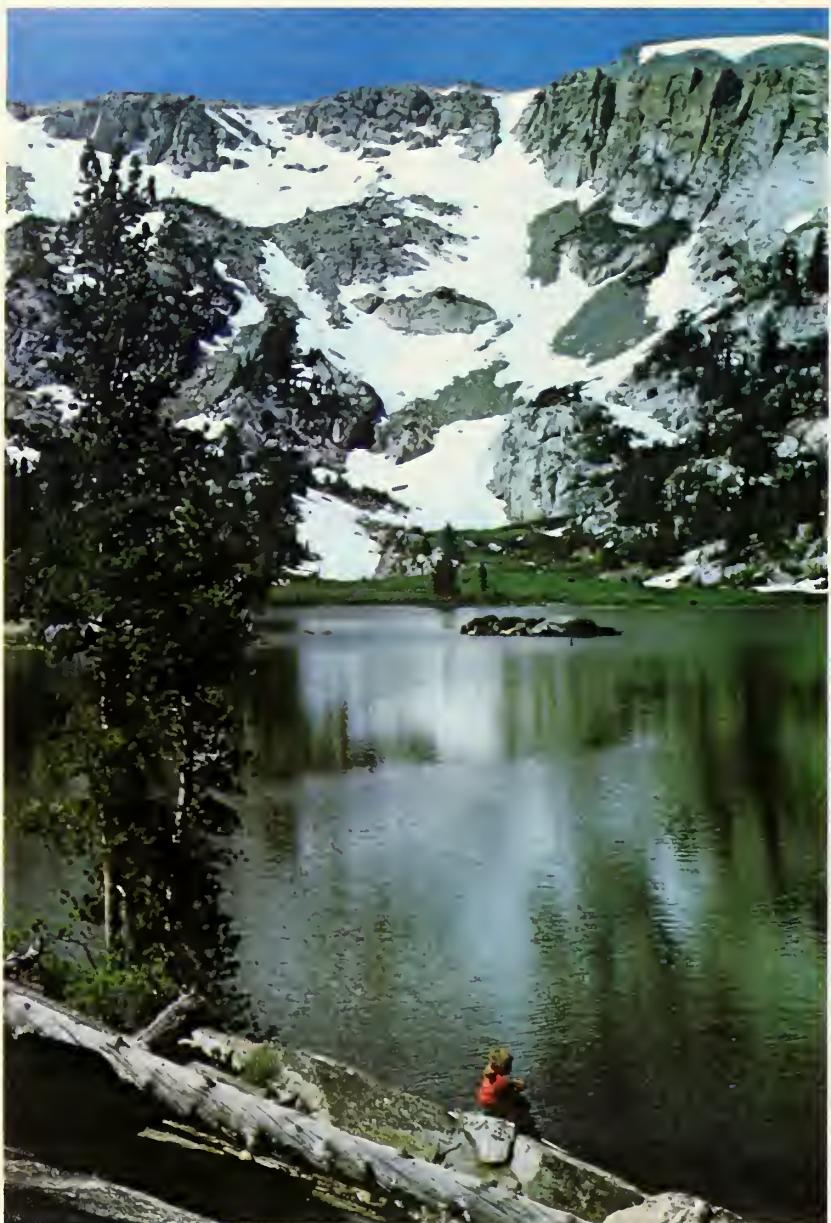
PROLOGUE

One of the first Americans to sense a threat to wilderness, and to speak out for the preservation of wildlands, was Thoreau. Even then, just over 100 years ago, the need was not immediate. Much of the land was still wild, and there seemed to be more space for expansion than the country would ever need. But before many years had passed, our building Nation was reaching toward the most remote corners of our land. For a few conservationists who looked to the future, this signaled a warning that without protection none of our lands would remain forever wild.

President Theodore Roosevelt, in 1905, declared that the object of forestry is not to "lock up" forests, but to "consider how best to combine use with preservation." Under enabling legislation passed that year, the Forest Service was created.

■ PRIMITIVE AREA

■ WILDERNESS



In 1906, the area of forest reserves was increased to 107 million acres, timber sales tripled, and grazing permits were issued. Subsequent legislation and Presidential proclamations increased the acreage of the National Forests and provided authority whereby the Chief of the Forest Service, with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, could exercise his judgment as to priorities of land use.

So began the Forest Service concept of wilderness land management—that of designating as wilderness those lands predominantly valuable *as wilderness* so as to manage and maintain them indefinitely for their unusual and unique values.

Thus, nearly 50 years ago, the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture pioneered in the preservation of America's wilderness heritage. Farsighted leaders recognized that the wilderness resource, once developed, was lost forever, and that lost too were those things inherent in its primeval character—recreational, scientific, educational, and historical values of great benefit to the Nation and its people.



The richest values of wilderness lie not in the days of Daniel Boone, nor even in the present, but rather in the future.
—Aldo Leopold (1887-1948)

WHAT IS WILDERNESS?

Wilderness is both a condition of physical geography and a state of mind which varies from one individual to the next. It is part of the eternal search for truth that involves man's desire to know himself and his Creator.

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964, accepted and established as national policy a Forest Service program to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness. Because the word "wilderness" means different things to different people, that Act includes a definition which, in part, says that it is Federal land " . . . where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man . . . retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation . . . generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable . . . "

Wilderness shaped our national character as our forefathers met and conquered its early challenge. The National Wilderness Preservation System will assure all future Americans of a continuing opportunity to test their pioneering skills.



In God's wilderness lies the hope of the world—the great fresh, unblighted, unredeemed wilderness. The galling harness of civilization drops off, and the wounds heal ere we are aware.
—John Muir (1838-1914)

EARLY YEARS

A nostalgia for the primitive life swept the Nation as the frontier receded. President Theodore Roosevelt and famed historian Frederick Jackson Turner were leading apostles of what came to be known as a wilderness cult. Turner claimed, "Out of his wilderness, out of the freedom of his opportunities, the American fashioned a formula for social regeneration." He added that the American was a higher type of person because he had struggled with and conquered the frontier.

President Roosevelt agreed with Turner. "As our civilization grows older and more complex," he wrote, "we need a greater and not a less development of the fundamental frontier virtues," No one pushed for preservation of the wilderness with greater fervor than Roosevelt, to whom wilderness meant not vistas of esthetic delight, but places to act as a frontiersman. The fact that these reserves, some of which he created with wonderful foresight when he was President, were difficult of access and could be of use to only a small number of people, did not bother him. He was thinking of their value to future generations.

At about this time, the preservationist movement was joined by a group who were not interested in bolstering the manly virtues, but who saw the mountains as living examples of Thoreau's teaching that "In wildness is the preservation of the world." Thoreau and his late 19th century followers, such as John Muir, were free spirits to whom the mountains and rivers and glaciers became a religion. Muir, in 1892, founded the Sierra Club, which was dedicated to "exploring, enjoying and rendering accessible the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast."

A new breed of practical romanticists appeared during the first half of the 20th century. Among them were professional foresters Aldo Leopold and Robert Marshall, men who were cast in the mold of Muir and Thoreau, but who had a more practical sense of social need. Leopold believed that the frontier had a beneficial moral and psychological impact on our Nation. "Many of the attributes most distinctive of Americans," he said, "are due to the impress of wilderness and the life that accompanied it." A man of many accomplishments, probably his most important achievement was to influence his superiors in the Forest Service

Aldo Leopold, one of the foresighted Forest Service leaders who pioneered the wilderness concept, once expressed his wilderness philosophy when he referred to the early Mountain Men, such as Jim Bridger and "Kit" Carson, as follows: "No servant brought them meals... No traffic cop whistled them off the hidden rock in the next rapids. No friendly roof kept them dry when they misguessed whether or not to pitch the tent. No guide showed them which camping spots offered a night-long breeze, and which a night-long misery of mosquitoes; which firewood made clear coals, and which would only smoke. The elemental simplicities of wilderness travel were thrills... because they represented complete freedom to make mistakes. The wilderness gave... those rewards and penalties for wise and foolish acts... against which civilization has built a thousand buffers."

Accordingly, when you enter a National Forest Wilderness you must expect no piped water, no prepared shelters, no toilet facilities, no table on which to eat your meals, and no grill to hold your cooking utensils. There will be few trail signs to guide you, so you must know how to use a compass and read a map. You will be on your own in a sometimes alien and unfamiliar environment. You must be prepared to meet the unexpected and overcome the dangers.



to acquaint themselves first hand with the wilderness conditions that have helped shape our culture.

While responsible for recreation programs on the National Forests, Robert Marshall was largely instrumental for adoption of the regulation which restricts roads, settlements, and economic development on about 14 million acres of National Forest lands. In 1932, Marshall organized the Wilderness Society which became an articulate and leading clearinghouse and voice for the supporters of wilderness recognition. It later played a major role in getting the Wilderness Act passed by Congress in 1964—a landmark in our conservation history.

FIRST WILDERNESS ESTABLISHED

Studies of wildlands on the National Forests began early in the 1920's. In 1924, with the general authorities granted by the 1897 Organic Act under which the National Forests are still being administered, a large part of the land that is now the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico was set aside as a special area for the preservation of wilderness. The Gila, the Nation's first designated Wilderness, now contains 434,000 acres of primitive American lands astride the Mogollon

and Diablo mountain ranges. From that year forward, until their authority was superseded by the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Chief of the Forest Service and the Secretary of Agriculture have set aside portions of other National Forests for such protection.

The wilderness idea was taking root and spreading. In 1926, the Superior National Forest Primitive Area in Minnesota was given special status. Later, this became the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, renowned as a roadless and primitive retreat offering canoeing, fishing, and a voyageur experience.

FURTHER PROTECTION

In 1929, the first specific procedures by which the Chief of the Forest Service could designate Primitive Areas were spelled out by the Secretary of Agriculture. These administrative regulations were refined and strengthened in 1939. The additional regulations provided that the Secretary, on the recommendation of the Forest Service, could designate unbroken tracts of 100,000 acres or more as "Wilderness Areas." Areas of 5,000 to 100,000 acres could be designated as "Wild Areas" by the Chief of the Forest Service. Commercial timber cutting,

roads, hotels, stores, resorts, summer homes, camps, hunting and fishing lodges, motorboats, and airplane landings were prohibited. Mineral exploration and development was permitted under supervision of the Forest Service

Under these regulations, public hearings were required before the establishment, modification, or elimination of any Wilderness. Public hearings also were held in order to reclassify Primitive Areas to give them the added protection of Wilderness or Wild status. In advance of such hearings, the Forest Service was required to conduct a complete review of the Primitive Areas to be considered. Prior to 1964, 31 areas were changed to Wilderness or Wild status and another 22 Wilderness and Wild Areas were established on National Forest land which had never been designated as Primitive Areas. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area continued in that category.



Conservation is the foresighted utilization, preservation and/or renewal of forests, waters, lands and minerals, for the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time.
— Gifford Pinchot (1865-1946)

MULTIPLE USE AND SUSTAINED YIELD

In its passing of the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960, Congress set another milestone in the conservation of the Nation's natural resources. Through that law, Congress redefined the functions of the National Forests to properly and legally encompass all of their uses in the context of modern needs. The legislation stated plainly that: "The establishment and maintenance of areas of wilderness are consistent with the purposes and provisions of this Act."

The Multiple Use Act emphasized anew Gifford Pinchot's concept of the unity of orderly integrated resource management. It recognized that wilderness management is part of forestry and is a compatible and complementary function of all other fitting uses of the land. Congress, by this action, made it clear that wilderness can no longer be considered to serve only a single use. It provides a habitat for wildlife, opportunities for hunting, fishing, scientific research, exercise and other enjoyment of the outdoors.



A total of 88 areas in 75 National Forests in 14 separate States have some form of wilderness protection. These include the following:

TYPE	NUMBER	ACRES
Wilderness	60	9,925,352
Primitive	28	4,363,954
TOTAL	88	14,289,306

These 14.2 million acres represent about 8 percent of the entire National Forest System.

There are those who believe that some of these lands should be committed to another type use—such as the growing of timber for harvest.

About one quarter of the Nation's timber supply is obtained from the National Forests. This figure has been increasing steadily. About half of the National Forests are capable of yielding commercial timber crops. These timberlands, too, are a part of our wilderness heritage, and it is only proper that some of them should be retained in the Wilderness System. Therefore, about 6 million acres of productive forest land is now included in National Forest Wilderness or Primitive Areas. This is 40 percent of the National Forest Wilderness. For example, the recently designated Mt. Jefferson Wilderness in Oregon contains about 1.35 billion board feet of quality commercial timber, which will provide a living outdoor laboratory for future environmental studies as well as esthetic and recreational values.

There are also some who think that it is disproportionate to have nearly 8 percent of the National Forests in wilderness that is visited by only 2 or 3 percent of those who come to the National Forests for recreation. However, a great many visitors who do not visit wilderness actually depend upon it in one way or another as a great natural backdrop for their outdoor experiences. No one can view a wilderness without being affected by its vastness of space and scenic beauty where elk, bear, antelope, mountain goat, mountain sheep, and wolves find a refuge from civilization.

THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964

The legislation had been passed by Congress, and on September 3, 1964, the President signed it into law.

It was a clear-cut victory for the proponents of wilderness, coming after 8 years of discussion and debate by the Senate and House of Representatives and 18 separate public hearings conducted by Congressional committees in Washington and other cities. The Act represented more of a beginning than a conclusion because it established a new set of governmental processes for designating and managing units of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Americans have learned to harness the forces of Nature to serve our material needs. We have learned how to cultivate and to utilize Nature through forestry, farming, animal husbandry, and the science of wildlife management that assures outdoorsmen of the good hunt. We have learned the delights of transplanting the essence of Nature into our homes and everyday lives through gardening, whether in the form of a window box, potted plant, or flower bed.

We also have learned the place and purpose of raw and untamed Nature—as a practical, useful land resource, as a provider of exercise to the body and stimulus to the mind, and as a fountain of sustenance and renewal to the soul.

The Wilderness Act stands as an affirmation of America's faith in its destiny and of man's belief in himself as a creature of intellect.

It directs and challenges three Federal Agencies—Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service—and the two departments, Agriculture and Interior, of which they are a part, to interpret the mandate of Congress and to fulfill their responsibilities with vision and skill.

It challenges the Congress itself, for the Act provides that future additions to the System may be made only by Congress. The decision to designate wilderness, or not to, is reserved to Congress, as spokesman for the public will.

Above all, the Act challenges the people. Its finest feature is that it provides for public participation and understanding. Before additions, deletions, or changes are made, they must be aired before the people, and the people must be

heard. If the ultimate decision in each case, whatever it may be, is based on active interest and involvement of knowledgeable Americans, this in itself represents an achievement in the process of democracy.

The Forest Service is proud of the part it has played in protection of a large amount of wilderness resource in the public behalf for many decades and in administering all of the original 54 components of the National Wilderness Preservation System. It welcomes the interest of more people in wilderness and the opportunity to explain how the Act works and how decisions are made to carry out its provisions.

The wilderness concept is subject to diverse interpretations and conflicts. These are reflected in the Act, an offspring of the democratic process, and are written not in the words of a single-minded, uncompromising individual but in the phrases evolved by Congress during its long consideration and debate of the issues.

The dominant theme and intent of the Wilderness Act is to insure an enduring resource of wilderness for the Nation.

For the Forest Service, this means that protection and advancement of wil-

derness values must be given priority in many decisions that are made day by day, week by week, year by year.

It means that such "non-conforming uses" as the Act authorized must be conducted in such a manner that they have only a minimum effect on the wilderness resource. The Act lists a series of special provisions for such uses, directing that rules governing them must be "reasonable"; however, administrators also must manage each area in a manner "to preserve its wilderness character."

The Forest Service was given its guidelines by the Secretary of Agriculture on June 1, 1966, when he issued regulations on the operation of the National Forest units of the National Wilderness Preservation System under its charge.

The Secretary directed the Forest Service to prepare an individual plan for each of the original 54 Wildernesses incorporated into the System, and for the others to follow. He noted that because each Wilderness has its own separate characteristics, a rigid set of rules would be impossible; however, based on terms of the Act, he defined the basic guiding principle as follows:

"National Forest Wilderness resources shall be managed to promote, perpetuate, and, where necessary, to restore the wilderness character of the land and its

specific values of solitude, physical and mental challenge, scientific study, inspiration, and primitive recreation."

"Toward that end," wrote the Secretary, "National Forest administrators must adhere to three objectives:

"Natural ecological succession will be allowed to operate freely, to the extent feasible.

"Wilderness will be made available for human use to the optimum extent consistent with maintenance of primitive conditions.

"Where conflicts arise, wilderness values will be dominant to the extent not limited by the Law or by regulations."

What are the non-conforming uses permitted by the Act and Forest Service management regulations bearing on them?

MINING

The continuation of prospecting for minerals is authorized, but it must be conducted in a manner as compatible as possible with preservation of the Wilderness environment. Accordingly, except in unusual circumstances, only primitive transportation (horse, mule, burro, or backpacking) can be used. Motorized vehicles are permitted only when their prohibition would be unreasonable.

Patents issued under the mining laws for claims filed after the Act convey title to mineral deposits but not to the land—title to the surface remaining with the Government.

The laws pertaining to mining and mineral leasing shall extend to Wilderness until 1983. Subject to reasonable regulations governing ingress and egress, persons or firms with valid mining claims may engage in exploration, drilling, and production activities including, where essential, the use of mechanized ground and air equipment. The Forest Service recognizes about 4,800 mining claims in Wilderness Areas and the right to conduct exploration on them.

In regard to mining activities that occur on claims after an area is included in the Wilderness System—if an application for patent is submitted—the claimant is now required to remove improvements no longer needed for mining, to restore the contour of the land as nearly as practicable, and to promote its revegetation by natural means. Permits for access to valid claims preclude mining and modes of travel, and other necessary conditions which will result in the least possible impact on the wilderness resource. No claimant can construct roads within a Wilderness without authorization and filing of a plan.

All mineral leases, permits, and licenses must contain reasonable stipulations for protection of the wilderness resource, consistent with its use in mining. Claimants must take measures, such as the use of settling ponds and diversion





of mineral tailings and dumpage, as directed by the Forest Service to prevent pollution, siltation, or deterioration of lands, streams, and lakes. Timber may be cut only for mining purposes and in a way to minimize soil movement, damage from water runoff, and adverse effect on the wilderness character of the land.

Except for valid rights existing at the end of 1983, National Forest Wilderness then will be withdrawn from use under the mining laws.

LIVESTOCK

Domestic livestock use established prior to the effective date of the Act shall be continued consistent with reasonable regulation by the Secretary and with the objective of maintenance or improvement of soil, cover vegetation, and wilderness values. Maintenance, reconstruction, or relocation of existing livestock management improvements and structures will be permitted. Additional facilities may be installed when necessary so as to protect or enhance wilderness values.

Domestic livestock losses resulting from carnivorous animals (coyotes, bears, mountain lions, etc.) will be resolved on a case-by-case basis. An effort will be made to control the individual offending animal with the least possible hazard to humans or other animals in the area.

WATER RESOURCES

The President has the power to authorize prospecting for water resources, establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works, power projects, transmission lines, and other facilities if he determines that such uses will better serve the public interest than will their denial.



*Solitude is as needful to the imagination
as society is wholesome for the character.*
— James Russell Lowell (1819-1891)

RECREATION

In a Wilderness, Man is only a visitor.

The Wilderness is for his use and enjoyment, but he has an obligation to leave this Wilderness unimpaired for future generations to know and enjoy. The achievement of such an objective represents one of the keenest challenges implicit in the Wilderness Act.



The *administrator* is challenged to devise and practice new skills so as to manage Wildernesses as a basic resource.

The *public* is challenged to understand and appreciate the problems, as well as the pleasures, of a wilderness adventure and, by so doing, to fulfill its responsibility in protecting the resource it prizes.

For many years the Forest Service has encouraged recreational enjoyment of Wilderness. It has laid out trails for hikers, hunters, riders, and others and has published maps to guide them and point out areas of interest. In recent years, it

has issued booklets such as "Backpacking in the National Forest Wilderness—A Family Adventure" in order to assist a family group in planning for a safe and pleasant trip. The film "Trail Ride in the Wilderness" demonstrates the values of group trips sponsored by non-profit conservation and outdoor organizations. Forest supervisors and rangers cooperate with packers and outfitters so as to better understand their problems and to assure that their services will be consistent with wilderness values.

Until recent times, wilderness required little management because it was little used. But with a continual acceleration in use, the same forces that made the Wilderness Act necessary demand the application of great wisdom to prevent its deterioration.

Ours is a fast-growing, fast-changing Nation. Centers of population are shifting. The surge to the outdoors, reflecting the affinity of Americans with Nature, is unending. Thus, the modes of a Daniel Boone or a Jim Bridger, who cut their beds of spruce boughs, built lean-tos and tables of poles, made "dead-falls" and exercised other freedoms with native materials, cannot be tolerated by those who would follow in their footsteps. Man's actions now must be disciplined so that Nature may be free.

In the high wilderness country, soils are fragile, covered by delicate plants and shrubs. Overuse and misuse by visitors in this environment can prove to be as damaging to watershed and wilderness values as would the bulldozer, or the careless logger and the miner.

Year after year, National Forest administrators have considered these problems with an increasing degree of urgency.

Some wilderness enthusiasts are inclined to regard the land in terms of their particular interests, whether it be hunting, hiking, or some other form of recreation. They may find disappointment ahead, for the Act transcends all selfish interests. It directs the Forest Service to manage wilderness as a *resource*, in which naturalness is perpetuated.

Wilderness is part and parcel of democracy—of the heritage, of the progress, of the expression of America that touches the mind, heart, and soul of each individual in a special way known only to himself.

In this Nation, Wilderness now belongs to tomorrow and to tomorrow's tomorrow. One generation hence, one century hence, one thousand years hence, a thoughtful American community may decree for Wilderness an altogether different role.

Our successors are entitled to that choice!





CALIFORNIA

This is a land of contrasts, with the highest and the lowest places in the contiguous United States within sight of each other. Mount Whitney rises to 14,495 feet and a few miles away is Death Valley, 280 feet below sea level. Within this zone can be found all but one—the tropical—of the world's climatic zones.

Southern California is a vast desert panorama framed by rugged, sparsely vegetated, stark mountains. Desert flowers bloom in abundance after rare spring rains, softening the landscape with riotous color.

High on the western slopes of the Sierra, the forests form a buffer zone for the valley floor. Here, canyons that once produced millions in gold are now valuable for recreation. The Sierra's eastern slopes, among the most precipitous in the country, plunge into beautiful and fertile valleys, where hundreds of trout streams are replenished by eternal snow on the high elevations.



Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
CALIFORNIA				
Caribou	1931	Lassen	19,080	<p>This is a gentle, rolling, forested plateau. It contains many forest-fringed lakes in volcanic or glacial depressions which are in striking contrast to barren rocky areas with numerous cinder cones and small mountain peaks. The lake areas offer attractive camping spots, and many of the larger ones are stocked with fish.</p> <p>There are no major peaks. However, Caribou Peaks, for which the area is named, Black Cinder Rock, and Red Cinder Cone are prominent points of interest along with many smaller cinder cones. The forest cover is mostly Jeffrey and lodgepole pine with white and red fir, and western white pine interspersed with hemlock.</p>
Cucamonga	1931	San Bernardino	9,022	<p>This is a rough and rugged land of sharp peaks and steep mountainsides with elevations ranging from 5,000 to 9,000 feet. The land contains ponderosa, Jeffrey, lodgepole, and sugar pine. There is an occasional meadow or "cienega." Water is scarce in the highest parts. The Middle and North Forks of Lytle Creek have water yearlong.</p> <p>The Middle Fork is the only fishing stream. It can be reached from Lytle Creek settlement. The season is limited as fire closures restrict all public use along this stream inside and outside of the Wilderness boundary after about June 20.</p> <p>The Cucamonga Wilderness is one of the few places in southern California containing mountain or bighorn sheep. Scattered small bands live on the mountain range.</p> <p>Telegraph Peak on the western perimeter towers 9,000 feet, with Cucamonga Peak a close second at 8,859 feet. Big Horn (8,441 ft.) and Timber Mountain (8,303 ft.) complete the western boundary.</p>
Desolation	1931	Eldorado	63,469	<p>This is fishermen's country. An area of small streams and about 130 lakes, with some as large as 900 acres.</p> <p>It is one of the most northerly sections of the glaciated High Sierra-type scenic lands. Elevations range from 6,500 to 10,000 feet. Pyramid Peak dominates a group of four high summits on the southern boundary. Timber and flora are alpine in character and exceptionally beautiful.</p> <p>A foot and horse trail runs the length of the area starting at Echo Lake and ending at Em-</p>

		Date	National Wilderness Created	Forest	Acreage	Description
Dome Land	1963	Sequoia	62,121			<p>erald Bay, a distance of about 20 miles. There are side trails leading to small lakes.</p>
Hoover	1931	Inyo, and Toiyabe	42,779			<p>A picturesque land of granite domes, 70 miles east of Bakersfield on the southern end of the Kern Plateau, between the South Fork and the mainstream of the Kern River. It is an open, semi-arid area with elevations from 3,000 to 9,000 feet; the days are warm, and the nights are cool. Vegetation on the lower slopes is light, consisting mostly of pinyon pine, some mixed conifer, sagebrush and rabbit brush. Erosion and weathering have left the area strewn with odd-shaped monolithic rock outcroppings, giving rise to the name "Dome Land."</p> <p>This small and extremely rugged Wilderness is best suited to the hardy backpacker. The trails are too high and rugged for easy horse travel. It ranges in elevation from 8,000 to 13,000 feet. In one area, within a distance of 5 miles, there is a 5,000-foot change of elevation. The season is but 2 months long—July and August. Even then, the hiker and camper should be prepared for all kinds of weather including rain, summer blizzards, extreme cold, and heavy winds.</p> <p>Most of the area is alpine type with little timber. Numerous lakes are bordered by meadows and an occasional small stand of lodgepole pine or aspen which offer protected camping spots. The lakes and streams are stocked with rainbow, brook, and golden trout, and offer good fishing.</p> <p>The Hoover Wilderness lies west of Mono Lake and extends north of Tioga Pass, up the east slope of the Sierra Nevada to the main summit. Its west boundary is contiguous with Yosemite National Park.</p>
John Muir	1931	Inyo, and Sierra	503,258			<p>Named for the famed naturalist, John Muir, California's largest Wilderness is considered by some to be the most inviting in America. It extends along the crest of the Sierra Nevada from Mammoth Lakes, southward along the eastern border of Kings Canyon National Park to the Mount Whitney region.</p> <p>Rugged grandeur characterizes this area. At the lower elevations there are gentle slopes along the streams and lakes. Included are the headwaters of the South and Middle Forks of the San Joaquin River as well as numerous smaller streams which drain into the Owens Valley. Thousands of lakes are scattered throughout the area. Lodgepole pine, red fir, and scattered alpine species cover the lower slopes where</p>

		Date	National Wilderness Created	Forest	Acreage	Description
Marble Mountain	1931	Klamath	213,363			<p>they border the Inyo and Sierra National Forests. Rugged snow-capped mountains form the major portion of the area, and there is a frost-free period from about July 15 to August 31 when the fishing is good. The streams and lakes are well-stocked with golden and eastern brook trout and rainbow. It is the summer range for an estimated 50,000 head of mule deer. A few bands of mountain sheep inhabit the southern portion near Mt. Whitney; they are protected by law.</p> <p>This is a mild and mellow country, without the harsh rock formations of most sub-alpine areas. It is almost entirely forested and easily-traveled over shaded and gently rising trails. Glaciated pockets in the heads of streams along the main ridges form lakes hidden against the ridges, with adjacent meadows for ideal camping spots.</p> <p>Lakes are abundantly stocked with native trout in the upper reaches from August to October. The lower and larger portions of the streams support ocean runs of steelhead and salmon. It is relatively free of insects. Deer, bear, and other forms of wildlife are plentiful. Alpine flowers abound. Some species found here occur nowhere else in the world. Many fine stands of the rare Brewer's or weeping spruce contrast richly with the colorful meadow flowers.</p> <p>Hunting is difficult but well worth the effort. The Columbian black-tailed deer found here are among the finest and largest of this species in California. Bear inhabit the high ridges in the summer, migrating to the lower slopes to hibernate in the fall.</p> <p>The area is named for Marble Mountain. This marble cap, 700 to 1,000 feet thick, formed from the bodies of sea organisms deposited when the peneplain was the bottom of the ocean. This mass has been crystallized and raised into beautiful white marble which creates the visual impression of perpetual snow.</p>
Minarets	1931	Inyo, and Sierra	109,484			<p>This area includes the spectacular high country east of the Sierra crest. It is rugged with elevations from 7,000 to 14,000 feet. Mt. Dana, the jewel of its northern corner (13,053 ft.), towers above its sister peaks, Mt. Gibbs (12,764 ft.); Mt. Lewis (12,296 ft.), and half a dozen more—all over 12,000 feet high.</p> <p>About midway along the divide, Ritter Range is topped by Ritter and Banner Mountains, and the Minarets for which the area is named.</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Minarets Continued

Minarets				Several lakes are in the central portion including Waugh, Gem, Thousand Islands, Garnet, and many smaller ones. All of them, with their tributaries, offer fine fishing. The area affords unexcelled opportunities for the experienced mountain climber.
				The John Muir Trail crosses the Wilderness from the Devil's Post Pile National Monument, just off its southeastern boundary, to Donohue Pass where it goes down Lyell Creek Pass to Yosemite National Park. Annual temperatures range from 15 degrees below zero to 85 degrees above. The closest road access is through Mammoth Lakes to Reds Meadow.
Mokelumne	1963	Eldorado, and Stanislaus	50,400	Barren Mokelumne Peak dominates the Wilderness. From its rocky prominences, the entire surroundings are revealed as lands of massive granite formations, carved and polished by the wind and water. The Mokelumne River flows on a southwesterly course. Its deep canyon bisects the Wilderness at an elevation of some 4,000 feet.
				Along the eastern boundary lies a vast granite mass more than 6 miles square which reaches a height of nearly 10,000 feet. Here the twisted and gnarled junipers stand as mute evidence of the forces of rain, wind, and snow.
				Within the shallow valleys north of Mokelumne Peak there are many small, scenic lakes. Along the shores are beautiful primitive camping spots. There are other good camping locations beside the Mokelumne River. Wildlife is abundant. California mule deer and Columbian blacktailed deer graze the alpine meadows. A few mountain lions inhabit the higher reaches, and an occasional black bear may be seen. There are several fine fishing spots along the main river course.
				Timber consists of scattered stands of fir, pine, cedar, and hemlock. Many colorful native shrubs are in the area, and during much of the year there is an almost endless display of native wildflowers.
San Gabriel	1932	Angeles	36,137	Some of the most scenic country in southern California has been preserved in this Wilderness. It is rough, rugged country with elevations from 1,600 to 8,200 feet. Much of the region is covered with chaparral, but above 5,000 feet there is mixed pine and fir timber along the ridgetops.
				Part of the area is accessible by trail. Both backpackers and horsemen will find these trails rugged and challenging. One trail extends 4

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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San Gorgonio	1931	San Bernardino	34,644	miles into Upper Devils Canyon; another winds for 7 miles to Twin Peaks Saddle; and one other extends 2 miles up Lower Bear Canyon. The interior offers opportunity for a week or more of exploration over rough and brush-covered terrain. Fishing is good.
San Jacinto	1931	San Bernardino	20,564	This Wilderness covers the summit region of the San Gorgonio Mountain Range, the highest range in southern California. It is well-timbered on its northern slopes with lodgepole, sugar, and Jeffrey pine and some unusually fine specimens of white fir and black oak.
				Outstanding attractions are the three peaks: San Gorgonio Peak (11,502 ft.), San Bernardino Peak (10,624 ft.) which is the initial point for the San Bernardino meridian, and East San Bernardino Peak (10,630 ft.) with their tremendous expanses of mountain and desert views. Small meadows and lakes offer contrast to wide reaches of bare rock.
				Only experienced hikers should stray from marked trails, as water is scarce and the going is rough. In the rugged country of the North Fork of Whitewater River, one could camp undisturbed for days. The South Fork trail from Barton Flats is popular throughout the summer.
				Fishing is fair in most of the lakes. Deer hunting, too, is fair. There are a few bighorn sheep on the east side, protected by law. Botanists and biologists will find unusually good opportunities for study of flora and fauna, from desert to alpine.
				This area lies high along the crest of the San Jacinto Mountains and contains some of the most spectacular mountain country in southern California. The San Jacinto State Park divides the area into two portions. The northern portion looks down on San Gorgonio Pass and covers all the Snow Creek drainage. This country is well watered, with good fishing below the falls on all main branches of Snow Creek. There are no trails and no public camps.
				The northern portion is the most spectacular of the two sections. It is one of those rare bits of wild country in which no evidence of previous habitation by man has been found. The views of the Mojave Desert, San Gorgonio Mountain, and the extreme contrasts from Arctic-Alpine life zones to the Sonoran zone, or desert, are among the most spectacular in California.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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San Rafael	1932	Los Padres	142,722	<p>This area is located in the San Rafael and Sierra Madre Mountains north of Santa Barbara. Relatively low elevations (1,166 to 6,596 feet) make the area attractive in winter and spring (when most high mountains are covered with snow), but hot and unappealing during the summer and fall. Fire closures are usually in effect in the summer which prohibit entry into the area until fall rains lessen the fire danger. Forest fire is an ever-present threat.</p> <p>Along the highest ridges are forests of ponderosa, Jeffrey, sugar, Coulter, digger, and pinyon pine, with some bigcone Douglas-fir, white fir, and incense cedar. These forests contrast sharply with the brush-covered lands of the surrounding mountains. The area contains three major streams: the Sisquoc River, and the Manzana and Santa Cruz Creeks. Fishing is fair.</p> <p>A 1,200-acre sanctuary for the California condor is within the Wilderness. Entry is prohibited except by permission of the Forest Supervisor who may allow scientific research. Deer are plentiful, but fire danger usually prohibits entry during the deer hunting season. California mule and Columbia blacktailed deer share the range, most of which is closed to grazing of domestic livestock.</p>
South Warner	1931	Modoc	68,507	<p>In the extreme northeastern corner of California lie the Warner Mountains, an isolated spur of the Cascade Range. Here is an area of alpine scenery, peaks, canyons, glacial lakes, and lush mountain meadows.</p> <p>Eagle Peak towers to 9,906 feet and dominates the area. Warren Peak (9,722 ft.), in the central portion, has on its northern flank Patterson Lake which nestles against the mountain at an elevation of 8,875 feet. Behind the lake, a massive backdrop of cliffs rises 800 feet to the top of the peak. Nearby Squaw Peak (8,650 ft.), almost at the northern boundary of the area, serves as a landmark.</p> <p>Summit Trail, traversing the backbone of the area, runs 27 miles from Patterson Meadow just off the southern border of the area to Porter Reservoir on the north. It is a favorite trail for those who like alpine scenery, since it follows the 9,000-foot contour for more than 15 miles along a ridge. It skirts the western flank of Eagle Peak, passes by Patterson Lake, and approaches the top of Squaw Peak. Numerous spur trails lead to gleaming glacial lakes and grassy meadows.</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Thousand Lakes	1931	Lassen	15,695	<p>Trout fishing in the streams is good most of the season. A portion of the area lies within a game reserve, but most of the area is open during deer hunting season, and mule deer are plentiful.</p>
Ventana	1931	Los Padres	95,152	<p>This is an area suited only to short trips. It received its name from the many lakes in the lava "pot holes" formed during ancient eruptions of an extinct volcano now known as Magee Peak. This 8,676-foot mountain is in the western portion of the area. Its top is now accessible by trail. Hall Butte, Tumble Buttes, and Freaner Peak are typical cinder cones.</p> <p>The main attraction is Thousand Lakes Valley, a 500-acre expanse of level ground in the northern portion. There are seven major lakes within the Wilderness. All are well-stocked with rainbow trout. Fishing is generally good throughout the season. Many of the smaller lakes however, are not capable of carrying trout through the winter. Hunting is not good because of a lack of forage. Some bear are found. Timber is mostly ponderosa pine, fir, and some sugar pine.</p> <p>This is a hiker's paradise. The major portion lies on the coastward side of the Santa Lucia Coast Range. At one point the area joins Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park. The lower slopes are mostly chaparral covered, with woodland and timber along many miles of all-year streams. Ridge tops support good stands of ponderosa and Jeffrey pine, and the north slopes are covered with native oak and madrone. Old growth coast redwoods occur in Little Sur and Big Sur Canyons. The rare and beautiful bristlecone fir, sometimes called Santa Lucia fir, is also native to this area.</p> <p>Elevations vary from 1,200 feet on the Little Sur River to 4,833 feet on the summit of Ventana Peak. Because of heavy use, and the exceptionally high fire hazard, about 25 campsites have been established. These are necessary in the interest of fire safety. During the summer and fall fire seasons certain restrictions are in effect, and during extremely hazardous periods entry may be made by permit only. Registration stations are at the main points of entry. Bird life is abundant all summer long. Almost all of the streams are stocked with rainbow trout. Wild boar, deer, wild pigeon, and quail may be hunted in season.</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Yolla-Bolly- Middle-Eel	1931	Mendocino, and Shasta- Trinity	108,451	<p>The North and South Yolla Bolly Mountains mark the north and south boundaries of this wild and rugged country on the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Eel River. In the language of the Wintun Indians, who occupied the area before the white man came, this rolling musical name means "high snow-covered peaks." Annual precipitation is from 35 to 40 inches, and rains may be expected from October to May.</p> <p>Dense stands of pine and fir on ridges contrast with an extensive cover of chamise, manzanita, and mountain mahogany at lower elevations. These brush thickets offer excellent range for bear and black-tailed deer.</p> <p>There is excellent fishing in Cottonwood, Buck, and Balm-of-Gilead Creeks, all well stocked with trout. Horsefeed is ample during early summer, but scarce in the late fall. Not heavily-traveled, the area is full of scenic delights. On clear days, visitors can see both the Sacramento Valley and the Pacific Ocean from high points along the trails.</p>
PRIMITIVE AREAS				
Aqua Tibia	1931	Cleveland	25,995	<p>This is limited to wintertime use because high fire hazard requires that it be closed from July to October each year. Nevertheless, there is much of interest in the area during the open season for the visitor interested in the various flora and fauna. The flora ranges from desert plants at 1,500-foot elevation, to timber at the 5,600-foot level. Over half the area has not had large fires for more than 100 years, and it is rich in specimens of native plants. It is a natural laboratory for the study of plant growth and ecology of this mountainous section of southern California. Of particular interest is the chaparral belt which contains ceonothus, manzanita, and redshank which have reached what is considered optimum growth for these species. Plants 14 to 16 feet high are common, with manzanita reaching tree-like forms with base diameters of 8 to 10 inches. Tree species include white fir, incense cedar, bigcone Douglas-fir, and Coulter and Jeffrey pine. The oak-conifer type of timber provides habitat for many varieties of birds. These include a large population of band-tailed pigeons for which Palomar (pigeon roost) Mountain was named. Deer and small game animals are present, also mountain lions, bobcats, and coyotes.</p>
Emigrant Basin	1931	Stanislaus	97,020	<p>This is an area of broad expanses of glaciated granite, towering lava-capped peaks, numerous</p>

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
High Sierra	1931	Sequoia, and Sierra	10,247	<p>alpine lakes and meadows, and deep granite-walled canyons. It is located at the headwaters of the Cherry and Stanislaus Rivers.</p> <p>Elevations vary from 6,000 feet in the lower reaches of the Cherry River to 11,575-foot Leavitt Peak at the crest of the Sierra Nevada. Timber consists of Jeffrey and white pine and some juniper in scattered stands, with an occasional grove of red fir and mountain hemlock or lodgepole pine in swampy stretches. It is bordered on the south by Yosemite National Park and is popular for pack trips out of the park. It is also popular for foot travel.</p> <p>The central portion is dotted with many lakes, some of which are unnamed. Huckleberry, Emigrant, and Long are the three largest lakes in the area. Fishing is good, particularly in the lakes. Deer, bear, and other wildlife are present. The best hunting is along the western ridge, west of Cherry River.</p>
Salmon Trinity Alps	1932	Klamath, and Shasta- Trinity	223,340	<p>This extremely rough mountainous area is possibly the most wild in California. It includes Tehipite Valley, which approaches the scenic scale of Yosemite Valley. There is a great variety of vegetation and life zones between Tehipite Valley floor and the surrounding elevation. Monarch Divide is an area of rough terrain with few travel routes.</p> <p>Although the Coast Range of California customarily is thought to be less spectacular than the Sierra Nevada, the Salmon-Trinity Divide along the crest of the Coast Range is as rough and wild an area as any found on the eastern side of the State. Mountain ridges and deep glacier-cut canyons comprise this vast area between the Trinity River and the Salmon River which includes parts of three National Forests. Granite peaks stand in a serrated, saw-tooth range. Thompson Peak (8,936 ft.) is the highest point.</p> <p>Timber is scattered, although good stands of Douglas-fir and pine are found along Coffee Creek and in the North Fork-New River section. The high peaks and ridges support typical timberline species such as foxtail pine, western white pine, and mountain hemlock. Several stands of the rare weeping, or Brewer's, spruce are found along Canyon Creek.</p> <p>Timber stands and brushfields give excellent shelter to deer in the area. Trout fishing is excellent in the many streams. Bear are plentiful, and occasionally a wildcat may be seen.</p>



THE NORTHWEST

OREGON AND WASHINGTON

The Pacific Ocean pounds against rocky cliffs, and inland jagged mountain peaks dominate the skyline. The giant trees of the coastal ranges are majestic and solemn, reminding one of vast cathedrals, out-of-doors. Here are lands of perpetual shadow formed by dense crowns of Douglas fir and Sitka spruce—growing more than 250 feet tall—and of the shorter hemlocks, cedars, and white firs.

On the floor of the forest only the most shade-enduring vegetation can live including forms that grow waist high. Such forests convey a feeling of everlasting life, with trees of all ages and sizes, from the overmature giants—5, 10, or 15 feet in diameter—to the current year's seedlings.

Slim, straight lodgepole pine forests cover millions of acres, often growing so densely together that passage is difficult. The ground cover is of sedges and grasses, with bright-blue lupine, brilliant orange tiger lily, and many other flowers.

Still further inland, the alpine forests of the Cascade mountain ranges are lighter, brighter, and more cheerful. At places, the trees are scattered and stunted from a lifetime of battling against the cold and wind. Strewn among them are alpine meadows, carpeted with fresh, green grass and many-colored flowers that have emerged after a hard winter of dormancy under snowdrifts unbelievably deep.

Swift-running mountain streams abound, originating from snowfields and glaciers at the higher altitudes. Mighty vistas of a series of snow-capped peaks in orderly array hold the viewer spellbound.



Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
OREGON				
Diamond Peak	1957	Deschutes, and Willamette	35,440	The area was formed during the Pliocene or early Pleistocene period, when the entire land mass of the Cascades was undergoing volcanic activity and uplift. The mountain was formed as a large volcanic peak, and was later carved by great glaciers. Nearly the entire area is timbered with mixed stands of mountain hemlock, lodgepole and western white pine, and silver, noble, and other true firs. The Wilderness is the transient home of black-tailed and mule deer and elk. The mule deer migrate east to winter in the desert. Blacktailed deer and elk drop down the west slope. Bear and small mammals including marmot, snowshoe rabbit, squirrels, pine marten, fox, conies, and others inhabit the area yearlong. The raven, Clark's nutcracker, Oregon jay, and water ouzel frequent the forest and streams year round. Bufflehead and golden-eye ducks occasionally nest near the lakes. Alpine flowers, including varieties of mimulus, lupine, pentstemon, Indian paint brush, and many others, are common along trails, lakeshores, streams, and in mountain meadows. The area is open for hunting and fishing during the regular seasons. There are eastern brook, golden, and rainbow trout in the streams.
Eagle Cap	1930	Wallowa-Whitman	220,416	Eagle Cap Wilderness embraces the rugged grandeur of the Wallowa Mountains in Northeast Oregon. A mountain called Eagle Cap is the hub of many streams. Over 50 lakes lie at the foot of precipitous slopes or are hidden in basins on the upper mountain slopes. The higher mountains, particularly on their steeper slopes, are nearly devoid of timber or other vegetation and have vast expanses of granite rock. Geological formations, such as dikes and sills of different composition than the surrounding rock, are found on many peaks. Some of the main ridges are capped with limestone and marble. Where soil is present, whitebark pines cling to the ridges. Around the meadows and at the foot of the rugged slopes appear the alpine firs. In the heads of the canyons are Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, and white fir. An occasional ponderosa pine may be found near the lower confines of the area. The rough topography of the Wilderness is broken by numerous deep canyons, towered over by the highest peaks in eastern Oregon. The highest is Sacajawea, elevation 10,033 feet. Other high

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Eagle Cap *Continued*

peaks are: Matterhorn, Pete's Point, Brown Mountain, Aneroid Mountain, and Eagle Cap. The dazzling white limestone of the Matterhorn contrasts with the reddish brown of adjoining rock formations. The Matterhorn, Sacajawea, and Eagle Cap are favorite climbs. No special experience or equipment is necessary, but caution should be used at all times.

Gearhart Mountain

1943 Fremont

18,709

This whole area is interesting geologically, but of special interest are The Palisades, The Dome, and The Notch, which is part of Gearhart Mountain. The fourth area of special interest, particularly to fishermen, is Blue Lake, situated in the northcentral portion of the area. The water is always clear and cold. There is no streamflow in or out, indicating it is fed by subterranean springs.

The Gearhart Mountain Wilderness is the only large area on the Fremont National Forest without roads. The area is an important summer and fall range for mule deer. There are also a few black bear, wildcats, coyotes, blue grouse, and cougar.

Kalmiopsis

1946 Siskiyou

76,900

This is a harsh, rugged country with a character different from that of most Wildernesses. It is a land of rocky, brushy, low-elevation canyons and has unique beauty and fascination.

Charred stumps and blackened tree trunks show that most of the Wilderness had been burned over. Some of the fires were probably set by lightning, but it appears that fur traders, trappers, prospectors, and early settlers were responsible for most.

Botanically, the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and the territory surrounding it is one of the most interesting regions in the Northwest. Over 12 species of coniferous trees, 9 species of hardwood trees, 31 species of shrubs, and many species of herbaceous plants are found within its boundaries. Some of these plants are extremely rare. *Kalmiopsis leachiana*, a small shrub, somewhat resembling a miniature rhododendron, is a relic of the pre-ice age. It is the oldest member of the Heath family and the only plant in its genus.

Visitors should be especially careful when traveling cross-country off the trails. Rattlesnakes are common. Travelers should always carry snakebite kits. Yellowjackets and hornets are numerous; persons allergic to the stings of these insects should take appropriate precautions. Poison oak is dense throughout the area.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Mountain Lakes

1930 Winema

23,071

This area is bounded on all sides by high mountains. The highest point is Aspen Butte, with an elevation of 8,208 feet. Other high points include Mt. Harriman, 7,979 feet; Crater Mountain, 7,785 ft.; Greylock Mountain, 7,747 ft.; and Whiteface Peak, 7,706 ft. In the basin created within the rim of these high peaks are found numerous mountain lakes noted for beautiful water and timbered shorelines. The lakes have been stocked with eastern brook and rainbow trout. During the summer months, the area is inhabited by black-tailed deer; in the fall, the lakes are used by wild ducks and geese.

The area may be entered from all four sides. A loop trail system within the basin connects most of the more popular lakes. About 20 percent of the area contains smaller-sized alpine fir, white pine, and lodgepole pine. These trees are found above 7,000 feet. Meadow grass and several species of wildflowers are found along the lower creek drainages and basins. Two-thirds of the area is over 6,000 feet in elevation. Precipitation is largely in the form of snow, which reaches depths of 5 to 20 feet. Thundershowers occur quite frequently during July and August. Temperatures vary annually from minus 30 to plus 95 degrees. Frosts could occur during practically any month of the year.

Mount Hood

1931 Mount Hood

14,160

At an elevation of 11,245 feet, Mt. Hood is probably the most frequently climbed snow-capped mountain next to Fujiyama. Novices, with guides and rented equipment, can easily climb the mountain in the summer. Only the experienced should attempt to climb in winter as conditions can change very rapidly at high altitudes. Registers are placed at Cooper Spur Junction, Parkdale Ranger Station, and Timberline Lodge. Always register before climbing and check in upon returning.

Weather is unpredictable and hikers should be prepared for whatever comes. The trails around Mt. Hood are usually opened to foot travel around July 15. They are not completely free from snow until mid-August.

Throughout the rugged terrain are many alpine meadows carpeted with a myriad of mountain flowers. Lupine, avalanche lily, anemone, and inside-out-flowers are a few that bloom in the late summer months. Paradise and Eden Parks have probably the most spectacular displays of alpine flowers in the Wilderness.

Located on the south side of Mt. Hood, Tim-

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Mount Jefferson	1930	Deschutes, Mount Hood, and Willamette	99,600	<p>berline Lodge is a popular entrance spot to the Wilderness for hikers, skiers, and mountain climbers. From Illumination Rock westward are innumerable routes. It is advisable to take an experienced guide along on cross-country trips in this area.</p> <p>Wildlife is not plentiful in the Wilderness, although deer, bear, bobcat, squirrels, grouse, and cougar roam the area and can be seen occasionally. There are no heavy fish-producing streams within the area.</p> <p>Snowcapped Mount Jefferson and Three Fingered Jack are the main features of this Cascade summit area. Mount Jefferson, 10,497 feet, is the second highest peak in Oregon and has perpetual glaciers. Mount Jefferson long has been recognized as having wilderness values—organized wilderness-hiking clubs have made use of this area since 1900.</p> <p>The Mount Jefferson Wilderness is ideally suited for either a one-day hike or an extended camping trip. Both Mount Jefferson and Three Fingered Jack offer excellent opportunities for climbing, but hold risks for the novice without training or proper equipment. The area abounds with wild mountain flowers, unusual and interesting geological formations, and spectacular scenery. About half of the nearly 100 lakes in the area are good for fishing.</p>
Mount Washington	1957	Deschutes, and Willamette	46,655	<p>A more rugged country than this is hard to imagine. Mount Washington, at 7,802 feet, dominates the area. Its summit is topped by a jagged pinnacle rising hundreds of feet out of the mountain.</p> <p>Mount Washington is one of the most popular rock climbs in Oregon. It was first climbed August 19, 1923 by a group from Bend. The pinnacle of the summit has since challenged many parties over various routes. The climb should be undertaken only under the leadership of qualified climbers with proper equipment. The final ascent to the summit is through chimneys and sheer rock and requires exacting safety precautions.</p> <p>Hunting is good throughout the area and many of the 66 lakes within the area support fish. Most extensively used are the Patjens Lakes in the northwest portion.</p> <p>Blacktailed deer and a few elk feed up the west slope and drop over to the east slope in summertime. Mule deer, which winter in the Metolius Valley, ascend the east slope in the summer to the Cascade divide. Black bear and</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Strawberry Mountain	1942	Malheur	33,003	<p>an occasional cougar also inhabit the area. And smaller mammals such as marmot, ground squirrels, pine squirrels, pine marten, conies, fox, coyote, snowshoe rabbits, and others may be found. Game birds are few; however, both ruffed and blue grouse may be found. Non-game birds frequent the area in summertime, and many species can be studied.</p> <p>Dominating the scenery around the head of the John Day River in Oregon is Strawberry Mountain, elevation 9,044 feet. Its five glacial lakes, thousands of acres of alpine and subalpine flora, and spectacular views are a welcome retreat for the sportsman, the photographer, or the nature lover.</p> <p>The Wilderness varies from 2.5 to 5 miles in width and is 18 miles long. It lies along a high east-west divide with Slide Mountain on the east, and craggy Canyon Mountain on the west. In between, such mountains as Pine Creek, Indian Creek Butte, Strawberry, and Rabbit Ears rise to heights between 7,090 and 9,044 feet.</p> <p>Each of the five lakes in the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness is open to year-round fishing. However, access is limited by the snowpack during all the seasons except summer. Good catches of rainbow trout or eastern brook can be made in any of the five lakes. Mud Lake is a beautiful, but fishless, shallow lake nearing the final ecological stage of filling-in with naturally deposited material.</p> <p>Big-game hunting for deer and elk is very popular in and near the Wilderness, and many excellent game animals are harvested each year. The southwestern corner is included in the Canyon Creek Archery Area. A few bear and many ruffed and blue grouse are also taken. The Wilderness also contains an interesting variety of forest vegetation, including ponderosa pine, western white pine, Douglas-fir, white fir, alpine fir, and other species. During July and August, the meadows and hillsides are ablaze with wildflowers and bushes.</p>
Three Sisters	1937	Deschutes, and Willamette	196,708	<p>The snowcapped Three Sisters lie in a north-south line and form a part of the Cascade Divide. The Sisters are surrounded by associated peaks of similar volcanic origin. Mountains belonging to the same cluster include the Brother, Husband, Wife, and Broken Top.</p> <p>Forty miles of the Oregon Skyline Trail traverse the Wilderness from north to south. It is part of the Pacific Crest Trail System which</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Three
Sisters *Continued*

extends through Oregon and Washington. Many trails also serve the area by providing access from the periphery.

West and southwest of the Three Sisters are 36 lakes totaling 995 acres. In the early spring, the lakes swarm with mosquitoes. Fishing may be good, but camping can be uncomfortable. Late in the summer and fall, the lakes are unexcelled for fishing, beauty, and comfort.

Columbia blacktailed deer, Roosevelt elk, and black bear are common. Blacktailed and mule deer intermingle during the summer months, especially near the crest of the Cascades. When fall snows come, the deer and elk move out of the area to lower elevations; the mule deer migrate in an easterly direction into central Oregon, and the blacktails and Roosevelt elk move westward toward the Willamette Valley. Cougar may be seen occasionally. Smaller fur-bearing animals—such a mink, marten, weasel, raccoon, bobcat, and coyote—also make the Wilderness their home. Blue and ruffed grouse are the principal game birds and are found primarily in the timbered areas.

Fishermen may catch eastern brook and rainbow—the most abundant types—and German brown, native cutthroat, golden trout, and some Dolly Varden. Golden trout are found in a number of lakes in the Chambers Lake Basin and in several other lakes in the vicinity of the Three Sisters.

WASHINGTON

Glacier Peak	1960	Mount Baker, and Wenatchee	464,219	This scenic wonderland, 35 miles long and 20 miles wide, derives its name from Glacier Peak (10,528 ft.), fourth highest point in the State of Washington. This jagged mountain of volcanic origin has more than 30 sister peaks in the area which rise from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above the intervening valleys. Included are three other peaks which tower more than 9,000 feet above sea level.
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Glaciers radiate in all directions from the summit of Glacier Peak. Nearly all of the higher peaks and ridges in the area cradle ice fields. There are over 90 glaciers in all.

The Pacific Crest Trail provides one of the important transportation routes within the Wilderness. This trail weaves its way northward through scenic mountainous terrain, passing Glacier Peak to the westward and into the Suiattle River drainage, then eastward across Suiattle Pass and down Agnes Creek to the Stehekin River.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Game abounds in the wilderness and open seasons include deer, mountain goat, black bear, and grouse. The majority of the wilderness lies within a special early-season deer hunting area, especially designed for those who enjoy high mountain hunting. Fish are plentiful in the streams and lakes. Hikers visit the Wilderness for many different reasons, perhaps to camp by a lake with a mountain view, to take pictures, to study the flora, or enjoy the solitude.

Goat Rocks 1931 Gifford Pinchot, and Snoqualmie

82,680

On the east flank of the great triangle formed by three sentinels of the Northwest—Mount Rainier, Mount Adams, and Mount St. Helens—is a true alpine wonderland. This wilderness land, 18 miles long and 12 miles wide, derives its name from the bands of mountain goats which inhabit its rocky crags. Elevations range from 3,000 feet to 8,201-foot Gilbert Peak.

Students of plant ecology have identified three vegetative life zones in this area: the Canadian, the Hudsonian, and the Arctic-Alpine. These life zones are essentially altitudinal divisions, but the separations often are not sharply defined.

Although access may be difficult, many of the streams and lakes in the area are well-stocked with native cutthroat, rainbow, and eastern brook trout.

Summit ascents of varying difficulty are available for the alpinist. A system of trails for hikers and riders offers vistas of flowerstudded meadows, peculiar rock formations, forested valleys, and distant snow-capped peaks. The photographer will forget the pressures of civilization as he captures the cautious mountain goat on film. Likewise, the hunter who ventures into this difficult land experiences a thrill when a trophy goat or bull elk is sighted.

Mount Adams 1942 Gifford Pinchot

42,411

Mt. Adams Wilderness, named for the dominant feature of its 42,411 acres, lies along the eastern edge of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and adjoins the Yakima Indian Reservation. Good mountain roads approach to within about a mile of the boundary on the south and northwest sides. Trails lead into the area and meet with the Round-the-Mountain and Pacific Crest Trails. Average elevation within the Wilderness is about 5,500 ft., approximately 500 feet below the absolute timberline. Some of this country is particularly rugged, especially on the east face of the mountain where Hell-roaring Creek heads among the glaciers. Little Mt. Adams, a secondary cone thrown up after

Wilderness	Date	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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the last eruption of Mt. Adams, stands in the midst of all this havoc. The lower slopes of the Mt. Adams Wilderness have an exceptionally rich variety of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous ground cover. There is an intermingling of species native to both the moist western Cascade slopes and the drier east side. The wide elevational range within the Wilderness also accounts for the variety. Coyotes range over the entire area and will usually be heard in chorus on a summer evening. You may glimpse a black bear in the berry patches, and blacktailed deer or an occasional elk browsing in the meadows. Blue and ruffed grouse are abundant for a short season during the time berries and tender plant shoots are at a palatable stage. Most of the lakes in the Wilderness are too shallow or lack the proper food to support fish; however, eastern brook trout survive in Lookingglass Lake, and small schools can be seen in the crystal clear waters.

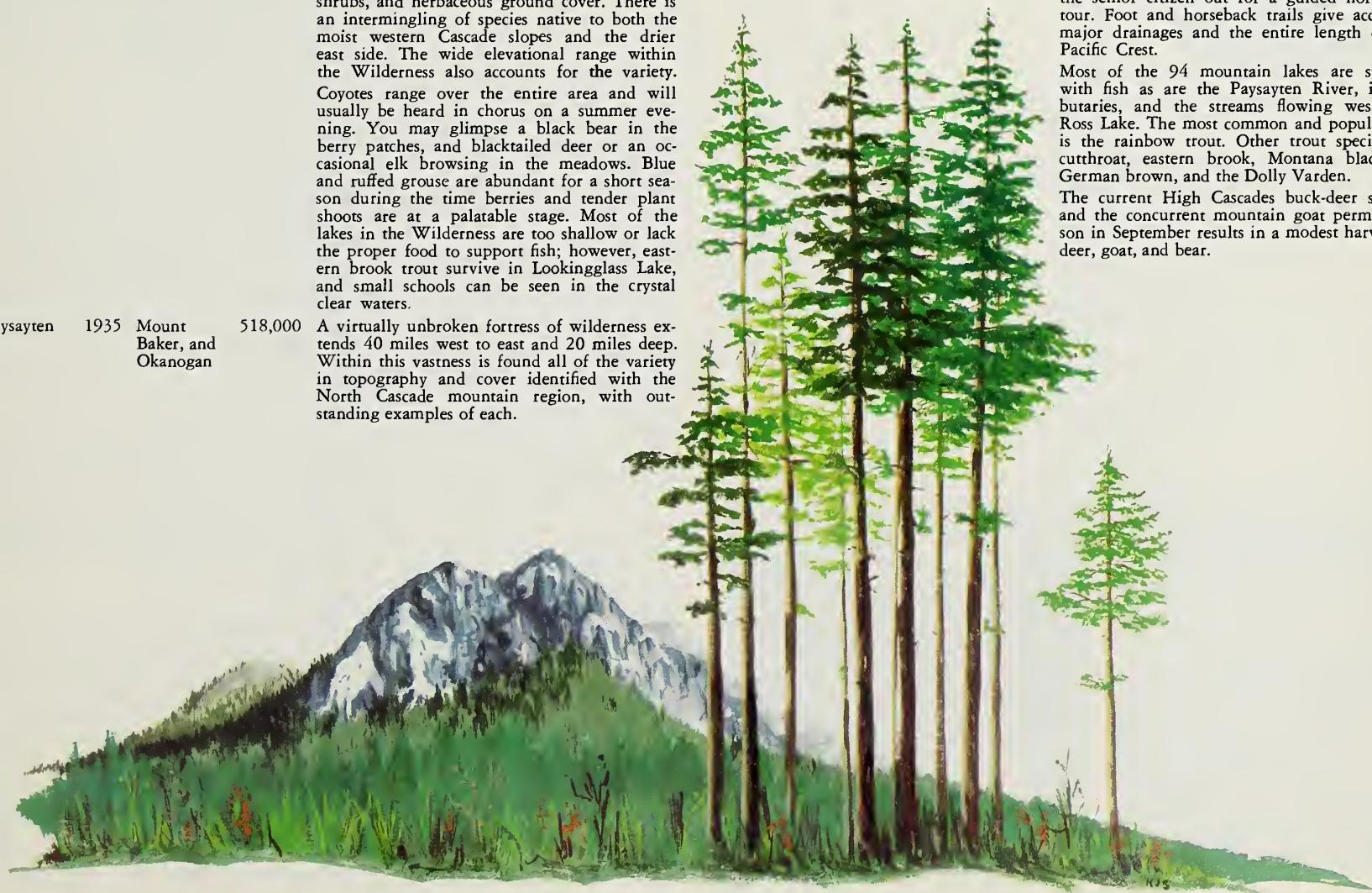
Paysayten 1935 Mount Baker, and Okanogan 518,000 A virtually unbroken fortress of wilderness extends 40 miles west to east and 20 miles deep. Within this vastness is found all of the variety in topography and cover identified with the North Cascade mountain region, with outstanding examples of each.

Wilderness	Date	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Virtually every wilderness experience can be found here. The wide range of topography, plant cover, and elevations invites the mountaineer seeking a challenging climb as well as the senior citizen out for a guided horseback tour. Foot and horseback trails give access to major drainages and the entire length of the Pacific Crest.

Most of the 94 mountain lakes are stocked with fish as are the Paysayten River, its tributaries, and the streams flowing west into Ross Lake. The most common and popular fish is the rainbow trout. Other trout species are cutthroat, eastern brook, Montana blackspot, German brown, and the Dolly Varden.

The current High Cascades buck-deer season, and the concurrent mountain goat permit season in September results in a modest harvest of deer, goat, and bear.



THE ROCKIES

COLORADO, IDAHO, MONTANA, NEVADA, UTAH, WYOMING

Mere words cannot do justice to the magnificent Rocky Mountains; they must be "experienced" to receive the full impact of their awesome majesty. The area they dominate is carpeted by forests and capped by towering mountains.

Historically, this region was home to the fabled Mountain Men, fur-traders, prospectors, miners, and the gold bonanza kings. Old mining towns are sprinkled among the peaks, some still active, some left with only the sound of doors swinging against empty buildings.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-06, trail-blazers Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, and others come alive as their names are identified with National Forests and Wildernesses.



	Date Wilderness Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
COLORADO				
La Garita	1932	Gunnison, and Rio Grande	48,486	La Garita Wilderness takes its name from the Spanish term for "The Overlook." The La Garita features San Luis and Stewart Peaks, both over 14,000 feet. La Garita is noted for its alpine terrain astride the Continental Divide. Steep talus slopes and glacial rock deposits are common, and streams and lakes contain native cutthroat and eastern brook trout. La Garita generally is accessible from July through September. There is abundant wildlife in an alpine and subalpine setting.
Maroon Bells- Snowmass	1933	White River	71,060	The 60-mile boundary of Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness, encompasses one of the most picturesque regions in Colorado. Capitol, Snowmass, Maroon Bells, Castle, Pyramid and a host of other peaks and high ridges range from 12,000 to 14,259 feet. Challenging, yet accessible from boundary-line campgrounds, the "Bells" is a family favorite for horse or hiking travel. Conundrum Hot Springs, near timberline, gushes warm water. Visitors of long ago built a small bathing pool below the spring and the water is just a little above body temperature. Mountain sheep spend both summer and winter here. Most streams provide excellent fishing.
Mount Zirkel	1931	Routt	72,472	Named for its highest point, 12,200-foot Mt. Zirkel, this area is noted for its many alpine lakes. More than 20 named lakes, plus nearly that many unnamed, are fishing favorites. The Sawtooth Range along the Continental Divide forms the nucleus of Mt. Zirkel. Scenery is spectacular with good fishing and hunting. Mt. Zirkel's boundaries lie close to developed recreation areas outside the Wilderness. The area is a summer range for elk.
Rawah	1932	Roosevelt	26,674	The area is about 14 miles long and 3 miles wide. The name, "Rawah," means wilderness in the Ute Indian language. Elevations average 11,000 feet. The boundaries shelter 26 lakes, some prominent and others well hidden. Noted for its fishing waters, Rawah is one of the most popular Wildernesses in the Rocky Mountain Region. Part of the area is extremely rugged.
West Elk	1932	Gunnison	61,412	The numerous streams in West Elk Wilderness flow to all points of the compass. Through the years, their constant downward rush has formed canyons with many interesting features. One such feature is the "Castles," which rise abruptly with sheer walls hundreds of feet high. Natural erosion has formed fantastic

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description	Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Selway-Bitterroot	1936	Bitterroot, Clearwater, and Nezperce	988,655	<p>IDAHO</p> <p>towers, minarets, and battlements, giving the formation every semblance of the feudal castles of Europe. The area ranges in elevation from 8,000 to 12,920 feet and is summer range for many deer and elk.</p>	Bob Marshall	1931	Flathead, and Lewis and Clark	950,000	<p>This Wilderness is noted for outstanding hunting, fishing, scenery, and geology. Extending 60 miles from north to south along the Continental Divide in northern Montana, it includes the headwaters of the Flathead River on the west and the Sun River on the east. Topography ranges from rugged, precipitous ridge tops, to gently sloping alpine meadows, to forested river bottoms.</p>
				<p>This is the largest classified Wilderness in the United States. Lying on both sides of the Bitterroot Range, which forms the boundary between Montana and Idaho, it includes large parts of the Lochsa and Selway River drainages in Idaho and the Bitterroot River in Montana. The Bitterroot, Clearwater, Lolo, and the Nezperce National Forests administer this huge area. The area is rich in history of Indians and early white men who found much of it impassable. With only occasional human visitors, much of this Wilderness remains as in ages past.</p> <p>It is difficult to grasp the immensity and variety of this area. Elevations range from 1,600 feet on the Selway River to over 10,000 feet in the Bitterroot Mountains. This provides for a variety of land forms, flora, and fauna. Seas of flame from wildfire have engulfed the area in the past, leaving only a few stands of huge old cedars in stream bottoms. One of the largest elk herds in the world roams this Wilderness.</p> <p>So great is the area, and so varied the Wilderness opportunities, that a year of exploration would still leave many parts unseen. Trails radiate into this area from access roads on all sides. (See under Montana also.)</p>	Cabinet Mountains	1935	Kaniksu, and Kootenai	94,272	<p>A 15-mile long Cambrian limestone reef on the crest of the Divide is called the "Chinese Wall" because its 1,000-foot vertical face suggests the Great Wall of China. Fossils of extinct animals a billion years old are found here. Game animals include the wolverine and grizzly bear, deer, elk, moose, black bear, mountain goat, mountain sheep, and mountain lion. Native black-spotted cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout are plentiful.</p>
Anaconda-Pintlar	1937	Beaverhead, Deerlodge, and Bitterroot	157,803	<p>MONTANA</p> <p>An area of rugged mountains atop the Continental Divide in southwestern Montana. It is noted for its high, rugged, and beautiful mountain scenery where mountain goats make their home. One may view glacial cirques and alpine lakes, elk with their calves in the mountain meadows, inspiring views, and unusual stands of alpine larch trees. Sparkling streams, fed by perpetual snowbanks above timberline, tumble down steep canyons from the high mountain meadows. A variety of flora and fauna may be observed.</p> <p>Trails, including a "hi-line" trail along the top of the range, are plentiful for foot travelers or horseback riders. Cutthroat and rainbow trout fishing is excellent in lakes and streams. This Wilderness is named after the nearby town of Anaconda and Charles Pintlar, a pioneer trapper and early settler in the nearby Big Hole Valley.</p>	Gates of the Mountain	1948	Helena	28,562	<p>This northwest Montana Wilderness is composed of a series of prominent peaks and surrounding timbered valleys and ridges. Snow-clad peaks and glacial lakes; cold streams and cascading waterfalls; mountain goat and grizzly bear; large specimens of white pine and western red cedar; interesting rock specimens—all characterize this area. Here, one will find some of the most beautiful subalpine scenery in western Montana.</p> <p>Access roads from the nearby towns of Libby, Troy, Thompson Falls, and Noxon, lead to the Wilderness. Hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, and photography predominate. Due to very limited forage, horse use is not encouraged. A few peaks offer some technical climbing opportunities. Most western big-game animals inhabit this Wilderness. There is a wide variety of conifer trees, shrubs, and flowering plants. Huckleberries are abundant. Elevations range from 3,000 to 8,712 feet atop Snowshoe Peak.</p> <p>Named for the mountains that seemed to bar passage of the Lewis and Clark Expedition up the Missouri River on their historic trek to the Pacific.</p> <p>This small Wilderness is of interest to hiking parties and is also suitable for horseback trips. One will view picturesque limestone cliffs and weathered rock formations. Trails pass through narrow gorges such as Refrigerator Canyon, so named because of the cool air flowing through a narrow passage among towering rock walls. A moss-like phlox covers the rocks with brilliant green. A great variety of flora adds</p>

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Gates of the Mountain *Continued*

color to the mountain meadows. Water is scarce, and streams sink into fissures and disappear. There are no fishing waters within the area, but fishing is excellent in the nearby Missouri River. Mountain goats are frequently seen in areas of deep canyons and towering cliffs; elk, deer, bear, and many smaller animals and birds are found in this Wilderness. Wild turkeys and vultures (turkey buzzards) are common.

Selway-Bitterroot 1936 Bitterroot, and Lolo 251,950 A mountainous, wooded area lying mostly west of the Bitterroot Range, it contains wildlife and vegetation of great variety. With the Idaho section, it is the largest unit of the Wilderness System. (For details, see under Idaho.)

Jarbidge 1958 Humboldt 64,667 **NEVADA** Rugged mountainous terrain with eight peaks over 10,000 feet. Deer are plentiful, small game and birds numerous, and good fishing in streams and one lake. One of the most scenic and remote spots in Nevada.

WYOMING
Bridger 1931 Bridger 383,300 Located in the Wind River Range with elevations from 9,500 to 13,785 feet on Gannett Peak, the highest in Wyoming, the area is characterized by massive granite outcrops. Hundreds of lakes and picturesque streams provide excellent fishing. Noted for mountain climbing and live glaciers.

North Absaroka 1932 Shoshone 351,104 As its "sister" wilderness, the South Absaroka, this area is best known for its big-game hunting and for fishing. It is marked by steep canyons, etched through time by rushing streams. Home to the Shoshone Indian, the area served as a temporary haven for Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce. John Colter, discoverer of Yellowstone National Park, was one of the first mountain men to travel here. Today's wilderness explorer in the North Absaroka Wilderness discovers a region apparently untouched by civilization. It contains glaciers, a natural bridge, and standing petrified trees.

South Absaroka 1932 Shoshone 483,130 The vast South Absaroka is a favorite of the early fall big game trophy hunter and the summer wilderness trail rider. Many of the trails hiked or ridden today were first made by the Shoshone Indians, who prized this area for its herds of mountain sheep, elk, deer, moose, and bear, including the grizzly. The area's many streams and lakes offer good trout fishing. Its great size, many miles of trails, and superlative scenery place the South Absaroka high on the list for a true wilderness experience.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Teton 1934 Teton 563,500 This is a region of high plateaus, large valleys, and mountain meadows that can be easily traversed. Of special interest is Two Ocean Pass, where Two Ocean Creek divides and sends one stream to the Pacific and one to the Atlantic. Noted for elk hunting and fishing—it is summer range for the Jackson Hole elk herd.

PRIMITIVE AREAS
Flat Tops 1932 White River 102,124 **COLORADO** This is a land of violent contrasts—rolling lands, steep cliffs, jagged rocks, mountain peaks, open parks of grasslands, and densely timbered valleys. The major part of the famous White River big game herd of several thousand deer and elk use this area during the summer and fall. An abrupt, irregular border of lava rocks distinctly outlines the portion named "Flat Tops." There are about 160 miles of trails in this Primitive area.

Gore Range- 1933 **Arapaho, and** 61,101 **Eagle Nest** **White River** The "Gore" is a favorite of backpacker and mountain climber. A network of 11 trails, totaling about 80 miles, leads the visitor through virgin forest, cascading streams, past deep clear lakes, in one of the most rugged mountain ranges in Colorado. This area literally stands on edge and is made up of a mass of sharp-pointed peaks, crests, and ridges. Great masses of snow perpetually lie on the almost vertical sides of this range. Mt. Powell, 13,534 feet, is the highest in the area. There are 17 peaks over 13,000 feet, 33 over 12,000 feet, and 40 that reach 11,000 feet in elevation.

San Juan 1932 **San Juan** 238,407 This Primitive area includes the "Window" on the Continental Divide, a famous landmark mentioned often in diaries of early travelers and explorers. The area is a mecca of scenic beauty, recreational enjoyment, and a haven for wildlife. In a normal year it is impossible, because of snow, to reach the high country before July. The best time for travel begins about mid-July and lasts until mid-September. While the eye is continuously drawn to towering mountain peaks, beauty carpets the ground in a wide variety of vegetation. The 14,000-foot peaks of the Needle Mountains and Grenadiers offer the most popular climbing challenges. The area abounds in wildlife, including a grizzly bear management area.

Uncompahgre 1932 **Uncompahgre** 53,252 Sheltered by the Uncompahgre Mountains, with peaks reaching to over 14,000 feet, the Uncompahgre contains countless lesser peaks, glaciated basins, small glistening lakes, and tumbling waterfalls. Half-hidden ruins of his-

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Upper Rio Grande	1932	Rio Grande	56,600	Historic old mines and mining camps lure the history buff. Deer, elk, bear, bighorn sheep, grouse, wild turkey, ptarmigan, and trout are plentiful. Trails wind through sharp canyons, climb across lush mountain meadows, higher and higher, until the arctic-like alpine zone is reached. And, all around, a jagged line of peaks towers above. This area is a blend of man and nature—always inviting exploration.
Wilson Mountain	1932	San Juan, and Uncompahgre	27,347	Bordering the giant San Juan Primitive Area is the jewel-like Upper Rio Grande Primitive Area. Situated on the slopes of the Continental Divide, the Rio Grande, with its many streams, forests, and open parks, is best described as "peaceful." Ringed with high mountain peaks, the terrain is such that any family group can enjoy its trails on foot or horseback. Camping and trout fishing are its major attractions.
Idaho	1931	Boise, Challis, Payette, and Salmon	1,224,733	IDAHO One of the smaller areas, Wilson Mountains is a favorite for both the mountain climber and the family. This area has survived early mining activity and other attempts by man to conquer it. Wilson Peak, Mount Wilson, and El Diente Peak, all over 14,000 feet, attract the serious mountain climber. Navajo Lake, featuring golden trout, draws the backpacking family. The countryside sparkles with wildflowers in mid-July. Large and small game are abundant.
Salmon River Breaks	1936	Bitterroot, and Nezperce	216,870	This Primitive Area is composed of both steep, rugged, riverbreak terrain, and forested, mountainous country. Located on the north side of the Salmon River, "River of No Return," it extends 40 miles through a roadless area midway between North Fork and Riggins, Idaho. Sport fishing for steelhead trout and salmon, big-game hunting for elk and mountain sheep, adventuresome white-water boating, and camping are the favorite activities. The riverbreak and mountain scenery are pleasures to be remembered or captured on film. History of Indians and white pioneers and miners are subjects for study.

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Sawtooth	1937	Boise, Challis, and Sawtooth	200,942	An exceptionally scenic area, it features the tooth-like Sawtooth Mountains with numerous deep gorges, glacial basins, with over 170 Alpine lakes. Fishing is good to excellent. The area is noted for wildlife including deer, elk, mountain goats, bear, mountain lions, and a variety of small game.
Absaroka	1932	Gallatin	64,000	MONTANA This area lies just north of Yellowstone National Park. It is largely a forested, high mountain area with interspersed mountain meadows. Visitors are few due to the lengthy trail access from road ends. Solitude, therefore, becomes one of the primary attractions. Big-game animals within this Primitive Area are elk, moose, deer, bear—including a few grizzlies—mountain sheep, and mountain goats. Occasionally, an old renegade bull buffalo can be seen grazing the high ridges. Fishing is excellent in the larger streams and the one lake. From the higher ridges in the area, one can enjoy spectacular views of the surrounding peaks. Season of use is limited due to snow on the high mountain divides surrounding the area.

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Beartooth	1932	Custer, and Gallatin	230,000	This area is composed of Montana's most rugged country, often termed "unfinished country." It contains majestic peaks, deep canyons, high elevation tundra plateaus, and hundreds of lakes. The highest mountain in Montana, 12,799-foot Granite Peak, is located in the heart of this area. The true tests of man's ability to meet the challenges of Primitive living can be experienced here. Weather can be severe all months of the year. Much of this beautiful country lies exposed to nature's elements above timberline. Key attractions for the adventuresome are true glaciers, some of which contain grasshoppers—preserved for centuries in the ice—colorful waterfalls and cascades, bighorn sheep



Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Beartooth Continued				
				and goats, alpine meadows, and challenging peaks for experienced climbers.
Mission Mountain	1931	Flathead	73,340	This relatively small area is located on the east side of the highly scenic and spectacular Mission Mountain Range north of Missoula. Entrance trails pass through majestic stands of virgin spruce, western larch, and fir. Much of the area can be seen only by hikers who travel without trails to the higher reaches of this rugged mountain range. Forage and trails are scarce, thereby limiting horse travel. The area receives heavy precipitation, mostly snow. Undergrowth, such as yew and snowbrush, is heavy and restricts travel at the lower elevations. Activities include mountain climbing, exploring rugged country, studying glaciers, photographing wildlife and beautiful scenery, hiking, camping, fishing glacial lakes, hunting mountain goats, elk, deer, bear—including grizzlies—or relaxation in a quiet, colorful natural setting.
Spanish Peaks	1932	Gallatin	49,857	Visitors receive a rewarding experience as they travel through the timber-covered lower slopes, over grassy ridges, along tumbling streams, into high mountains, and up to the craggy, rugged mountain peaks. Named by the Crow Indian Tribe after finding six Spanish trappers in the vicinity in 1836, they called it "the canyon where the Spaniards stop."
				Alpine glaciation has produced spectacular features consisting of steep, rugged peaks, knife-edge ridges, and numerous cirques containing lakes surrounded by alpine meadows. Elevations range from 6,000 feet to 11,015 feet on Gallatin Peak. There are 25 peaks over 10,000 feet that probe the clear mountain air. Timberline is at about 9,000 feet. Moose, elk, deer, mountain sheep and goat, and black bear inhabit the area. Lakes and streams contain cutthroat, rainbow, brook, and grayling trout. Hiking, riding, camping, fishing, hunting, nature study, and photography highlight the activities of this scenic Madison Mountain Range.
UTAH				
High Uintas	1931	Ashley, and Wasatch	237,177	The High Uinta Mountains, ranging from 8,000 to 13,449 feet, are the highest in Utah and the only major east-west range in the United States. A wild, picturesque region, rich in scenic, geological, and biological interest, the area is noted for fishing in over 250 small lakes.

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
WYOMING				
Cloud Peak	1932	Bighorn	137,000	This area is named after its highest point, 13,165-foot Cloud Peak. Lowest point is the Main Fork of Paintrock Creek, lying at 8,500 feet. With a mean elevation of 10,000 feet, the season of use runs from about June 15 to September 15. Nearly vertical walls, 1,000 to 5,000 feet high, form a most impressive backdrop. The granite west side of Cloud Peak is dramatic in its gray solidity. Mather Peak and Blacktooth Peaks are breathtaking.
				Lake Solitude is the largest lake in the area; smaller mountain lakes are Crater, Cliff, and Geneva Lakes. Wildlife, including the tiny rock coney, the elk, moose, deer, mountain sheep, bear, fox, or his larger cousin, the coyote, adds to the primitive enjoyment. Cloud Peak contains 256 fishing lakes and 49 miles of fishing streams.
Glacier	1937	Bighorn	177,000	This region of extremely rough and rugged topography has appeal to the hardy outdoorsman. It takes its name, not from ice-age history, but from some of the largest living glaciers within the continental United States. Much of the area is bare granite rock, planed off by recent or living glaciers. Highest peak is Gannet Peak, the highest point in the State of Wyoming, at 13,735 feet. There are numerous alpine lakes.
Popo Agie	1937	Bighorn	70,000	Centuries of glacial action have resulted in a photographer's paradise in Popo Agie. Lying along the Continental Divide, the Popo Agie features over 200 lakes, high, jagged peaks, and deep narrow canyons. Seven major trails provide a journey through geologic history. Snowstorms and cold weather can be expected above timberline any time of the year. This high country is rarely open before mid-July.
Stratified	1932	Bighorn	203,930	To the rockhound or geology buff, the Stratified area provides a never-ending succession of discovery. This area is rich in petrified remains of forests, ferns, and animal life. A hiking or horseback trek through the Stratified is a trip backward in time. Sections of petrified trees may be found on the gravel bars of almost all of the streams. Standing petrified tree trunks may be seen at the head of Frontier Creek. The area provides excellent hunting for big game, but only fair fishing. Campsites for wilderness travelers are numerous and well-distributed.

THE SOUTHWEST

ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO

Arid desert areas abound with the giant Saguaro cactus, gila monster, sidewinder, tumbleweed, and sagebrush. There are snowcapped mountains as well as deep, sheer canyons that once housed early cliff dwelling Indians. The rocky peaks and isolated mountain fastnesses were the province of gold prospectors and early badmen.

Stands of pine and spruce grow in parklike array at higher elevations, receiving precious, life-sustaining water from runoff and storage of the deep winter snows.

Still visible on the arid desert floor are marks made by the great wagons of early settlers of the West. Deep within its National Forests, one can find roughly worded epitaphs on stone outcrops which commemorate forgotten skirmishes between the U.S. Cavalry and Indians.

The Spanish tried and failed to conquer this land—today you can trace Coronado's expedition across it. And you can visit Indian ruins of a civilization that reached its height long before the Spanish invaders came.

A timeless land—beautiful and forbidding.



Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
Chiricahua	1933	Coronado	18,000	ARIZONA Jutting from the floor of the desert are the rugged pine-clad peaks of the Chiricahua Mountains. This "Island in the Desert" seemingly has been bypassed by modern civilization. A century ago, the mountains were the hunting grounds for Cochise and Geronimo. Variations in elevation, exposure, slope, and moisture provide a wide diversity of plant and animal life. Among the game species is the rare Chiricahua squirrel, found only in this vicinity.
Galiuro	1932	Coronado	52,717	The Galiuro is a very rough, brushy desert mountain range, rising abruptly from the desert floor. The flanks form a series of spectacular cliffs and benches. The variety of plant species includes nearly every species common to southern Arizona. Travel is extremely difficult due to the steep topography and dense brush. Water is scarce and high temperatures discourage travel during summer months. For experienced outdoorsmen, there is good hunting.
Mazatzal	1932	Tonto	205,137	Known locally as the "Ma-ta-zel" Wilderness, this area embraces the north end of the Mazatzal Range. These are predominantly desert mountains, exceedingly rough and precipitous, broken by narrow, vertical-walled canyons. Many peaks are carved out of solid rock. Those who visit the area find dramatic scenery, abundant and varied wildlife, striking climatic relief, and wild country that few people experience. Elevations range from 2,500 feet to 7,800 feet. Visitors should be prepared for difficult travel situations, and should carry water and other supplies.
Sierra Ancha	1933	Tonto	20,850	This is exceptionally rough, scenic, and inaccessible country. The desert mountains include precipitous box canyons, high vertical cliffs, and prehistoric cliff dwellings. The extremely rough topography limits, and in some places prohibits, cross-country travel. Plant and animal species vary from those found on the desert to those found at 8,000 feet.
Superstition	1939	Tonto	124,117	The Wilderness is immediately adjacent to the Sierra Ancha Experimental Forest where many wildland management research programs are undertaken. Big game is abundant.
				Before white men traveled through this rough desert area, the Superstition Mountains contained an element of mystery. Indian legends are numerous. The most famous story centers on the Lost Dutchman Gold Mine. Many peo-

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Super-
stitution Continued

Gila 1924 Gila

NEW MEXICO

433,690 This area contains the first parcel of public land ever set aside to be managed for its wild and unspoiled quality. A part of the Mogollon Plateau, the area is sharply cut by steep, rugged canyons through which flow numerous streams and rivers. Archeological sites are common throughout, giving evidence of prehistoric habitation. Chief Geronimo is reputed to have spent considerable time here. With unique historic features, outstanding scenery, hunting, fishing, and solitude, this is an extremely popular and interesting Wilderness.

Pecos 1933 Carson, and 167,416 Santa Fe

This area lies at the southern end of the majestic Sangre de Cristo Mountains, at the headwaters of the Pecos River. The Pecos Wilderness includes some of the most beautiful and scenic country in New Mexico. Excellent fishing and hunting, magnificent scenery, and quiet solitude attract many visitors. Truchas Peak, second highest in New Mexico, provides a challenge for mountain climbers and ecologists who may observe rare species of plants and animals. Many lakes, more than 150 miles of streams, a 100-foot waterfall, and innumerable springs are in the area.

San Pedro Parks 1931 Santa Fe

41,132

A high, moist plateau of rolling mountaintops with alternating areas of dense spruce and open mountain meadows—this is the San Pedro Parks Wilderness.

Deer, bear, turkey, grouse, and elk regularly draw hunters. Fishermen rarely leave the small high streams empty-handed. The green beauty of the 10,000-foot-high "Parks" is a satisfying reward to the hiker or rider.

Wheeler Peak 1960 Carson

6,027

The smallest Wilderness in the West, this area offers unusual and unique experiences. The focal point is Wheeler Peak, 13,161 feet, the highest point in New Mexico. The alpine tun-

ple have died, some under peculiar circumstances, while searching for this mine and its fabled treasure.

The area is spectacularly beautiful and rugged, but can be inhospitable to those not equipped to meet nature on her terms. Searing heat and a shortage of water are typical conditions in the summer. Bitter cold, torrential rains, and snowstorms are common in the winter. To those hardy enough to meet the challenges, this Wilderness offers scenic beauty, solitude, and a chance to study the many plants and animals indigenous to the area.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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White Mountain 1933 Lincoln

31,171

dra that covers Wheeler and other nearby peaks is rare in the Southwest. Plant and animal species here are found only in the real "high country." Small lakes and streams provide the source of several streams that are vital to downstream water users.

PRIMITIVE AREAS
Blue Range 1933 Apache

180,139

ARIZONA

Lying at the southern edge of the Colorado Plateau, the Blue Range is rugged and beautiful with many geologic and scenic attractions, including timbered ridges and deep canyons. The Mogollon Rim, made famous as the "Tonto Rim" in Zane Grey's books, crosses the area from west to east. This Rim, unique both from geological and ecological standpoints, is further enhanced by the spectacular Blue River Canyon and River. There is spruce and fir in the high country, with ponderosa pine in the lower elevations. Big game is abundant.

Mount Baldy 1932 Apache

7,106

Cradling the headwaters of the West Fork of the Little Colorado River, this small area typifies the higher elevation of Arizona. From 8,700 feet to 11,000 feet, the topography varies from gently sloping timbered benches to extremely steep, rockstrewn mountainsides cut by deep canyons. This is the only wilderness-type area in the State that includes the subalpine vegetation zone. The climate contrasts sharply with the hot, dry valleys of Arizona's population centers.

Big game is abundant, and there is 5 miles of fishing stream.

Pine Mountain 1933 Prescott, and 16,399 Tonto

Lying along the high Verde River Rim, the area stands as an island of tall, green timber, surrounded by desert mountains with hot, dry mesas and deep canyons. The timber is predominantly ponderosa pine.

A great variety of wildlife and plants unfolds

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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as the hiker or rider climbs through several life zones enroute to the top of Pine Mountain at 6,800 feet. Abundant big game, but hunting is difficult because of heavy cover and steep slopes and canyons.

Sycamore Canyon 1935 Coconino, Kaibab, and Prescott 49,575

As the name implies, this area contains a unique canyonland environment. The canyon cuts through the Colorado Plateau at its southern edge, the Mogollon Rim, and winds 20 miles along Sycamore Creek, spreading as much as 7 miles from rim to rim. Wind and water have exposed seven geological eras, ranging in elevation from 3,600 feet to 7,000 feet. The changes in elevation result in a variety of contrasting ecological associations set in spectacular surroundings. Red sandstone, white limestone, and brown lava contrast markedly with many types of vegetation found in the canyons. Prehistoric ruins present evidence of vanished Indian culture.

Gila 1933 Gila 130,637

NEW MEXICO

From rolling, pinyon-juniper hills and grassy benches to rough, rocky canyons and timbered mesas, this area presents a broad spectrum of wild, primitive country. It was set aside to preserve some of the geological, topographical, and ecological features not found within other Wildernesses nearby. Game is plentiful, although fishing is limited in this semiarid portion of the Mogollon Mountains. Once known as "Apacheria," or land of the Apache Indians, this area is rich in history, geology, archeology, and rugged scenery.

Black Range 1933 Gila 169,356

The Black Range Primitive Area was created to preserve the wild characteristics and resources of the rugged Black Range of mountains. The rough, rocky canyons and peaks offer solitude, coupled with pleasing scenery, and relief from high desert temperature. Scars from very old forest fires are evident throughout the area. More recent wildfires provide study opportunities in ecological succession. Big game is not abundant and fishing is limited, although

Primitive Area	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Diamond Creek supports the Gila Trout, a species that is almost extinct. The famous Apache Chief Geronimo used the Black Range as a hideout.

Blue Range 1933 Apache 36,598

The Blue Range is traversed by the Mogollon Rim with spruce and fir in the high country and with ponderosa pine in the broken country below. Big game is abundant. (For details, see under Arizona section.)





THE LAKE STATES

MINNESOTA

The BWCA is unique in the National Forest Wilderness Systems—it is the *only* lakeland Wilderness. It contains more than a thousand lakes, 10 acres in size or larger—more lakes than all but a handful of States can boast. There is an acre of water for every 5 acres of land in this million-acre tract. It is truly a “water wilderness.”

As one paddles through the labyrinth of Wilderness lakes and streams of the Canoe Area, forested land creates a scenic backdrop for the voyage. On portages and at campsites, you will come to know these forests intimately, and you will sense their endless variety. In some areas the trees are young and small; in others they are large and old, and the species often change abruptly.

This area also is unique in that the Wilderness Act provides that it continue to be managed under special regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, which permit controlled use of motors and the harvest of timber in portions of the area.



Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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MINNESOTA				
Boundary Waters Canoe Area	1926	Superior	747,128	Jagged rocks and lush undergrowth sprawl beneath the forest canopy of this lakeland Wilderness—dotted with over 1,000 lakes and laced by a network of streams and rivers. There is excellent fishing in more remote areas of this largest Wilderness east of the Rockies—one of the largest in the system. Here, the modern-day voyageur can follow the routes of the Chippewa and Sioux, and the early day trappers and fur traders.





THE SOUTHEAST

NORTH CAROLINA

Hardwoods in the Southern Appalachians grow higher than any other hardwoods on the continent. Here, the straight boles of the tulip poplar rise more than 100 feet without limbs and jut far above the surrounding oaks. In small openings of the forest grow dense clumps of laurel and azalea which in May and June blossom forth in brilliant orange, pink, and cardinal.

There is history in the mountains of the southern National Forests. Forestry in the United States was born in the mountains of western North Carolina, and its site is marked as the "Cradle of Forestry." Here, America's first forestry school has been re-created at the old Vanderbilt Estate near Asheville, North Carolina, with buildings just as they were at the turn of the century.

	Date	National Wilderness Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
NORTH CAROLINA					
Linville Gorge	1951	Pisgah	7,575		This area is spectacularly beautiful, with steep slopes, curious rock formations, and overhanging cliffs. For 12 miles, the Gorge encloses the Linville River which drops 2,000 feet into the valleys below. There are many varieties of plants and wildlife. Wiseman's View offers picnicking and a commanding view of the Gorge. Camping is permitted, but there are no facilities. The area is extremely rugged and those entering should notify the District Ranger at Marion.
Shining Rock	1963	Pisgah	13,350		This tract has scenic waterfalls, outstanding, wildlife, and unusual vegetative cover. Its unique geological formations range from the steep outcropping of white quartz that is Shining Rock to gentle, undulating slopes. Elevations rise from 3,500 to 6,033 feet at Cold Mountain. Trails go into much of the area, and springs are numerous. Camping is permitted, but there are no facilities. Unusual care should be taken with fire.





THE NORTHEAST

NEW HAMPSHIRE

On the eastern slopes of the Presidential Mountain Range, a narrow, steep-sided gulf offers a retreat into the solitude once known only to our forefathers.

Called the Great Gulf, this valley, 1,100 to 1,600 feet deep, is located between Mt. Washington and the Northern Peaks and extends 3.5 miles eastward from Mt. Washington. The rugged topography creates a feeling of remoteness from civilization. Only a few scattered stands of virgin spruce have remained unscathed from the hurricanes that have tormented the area.

Wilderness	Date Created	National Forest	Acreage	Description
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Great Gulf 1959 White Mountain

NEW HAMPSHIRE

5,552 The Great Gulf rises from valley depths of 1,600 feet to merge with the eastern slopes of Mount Washington and the Presidential Range reaching to 5,800 feet. Gouged out of surrounding mountains by glaciers, the spruce and fir of its upper reaches have been torn away by recurrent hurricanes, although hardy and colorful alpine flowers return annually to its barren crest. Descending into the "Gulf," the growth of conifers and scattered hardwoods becomes lush, with varied wildlife.

The West Branch of the Peabody river cuts an arc across these acres, and in the upper reaches, are two lakes—Spaulding Lake and Star Lake. Because of its remoteness, hunting is difficult, although deer are found up to 3,500 feet, and snowshoe rabbits range up to the tree line.



PHOTOGRAPHS

Cover: Sunrise on Glacier Peak in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, Mt. Baker National Forest, Washington F-519720

Inside Cover: Eastern Hardwood Forest F-519721

Page 4: T. J. Lake and Mammoth Crest in the John Muir Wilderness, Inyo National Forest, California F-519722

Page 5: Chinese Wall in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Flathead National Forest, Montana F-519723

Page 6: Canoeing in Lac La Croix, Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Superior National Forest, Minnesota C-19

Page 7: Big Horn Sheep (left) and Mule Deer (right) F-519728-519724

Page 8: Superstition Mountains in the Superstition Wilderness, Tonto National Forest, Arizona

Page 9: Snow shoeing in the High Country, Wenatchee National Forest, Washington F-519726

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Rawah Wilderness (upper right) in the Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado F-519735
Erythronium Grandiflorium (Glacier Lily) (lower right) in the Mission Mountains Primitive Area, Flathead National Forest, Montana. F-519727

Page 11: From a photograph of the Maroon Bells, Maroon Bells Snowmass Wilderness, White River National Forest, Colorado

Page 12: The Minarets in the Minarets Wilderness, Inyo and Sierra National Forests, California F-519729

Page 17: 10,541 foot Glacier Peak in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, (left) Mt. Baker and Wenatchee National Forests, Washington. F-519730
Three Sisters Peaks in the Three Sisters Wilderness, Deschutes National Forest, Oregon. F-519731

Page 22: Fisherman in the Sawtooth Primitive Area, (left), Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho F-519732
Camping at 10,000 feet, Cook Lake in the Bridger Wilderness (right) Bridger National Forest, Wyoming F-519733

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Page 30: Lac La Croix portage in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Superior National Forest, Minnesota F-498986

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Page 32: Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Adams, and Mt. Madison, Great Gulf Wilderness, White Mountain National Forest, New Hampshire F-476932

Page 33: Middle Fork of the Gila River, Gila Wilderness Gila National Forest, New Mexico

Back Cover: (Top) Looking southwest at Mountaineer Peak, Mission Mountains Primitive Area, Flathead National Forest, Montana F-519725
(Bottom) Sycamore Canyon Primitive Area in the Coconino, Kaibab, and Prescott National Forests, Arizona



